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Remarks

Claims 1-15, inclusive, are under consideration.

Claims 1, 5 are amended.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge withdrawal of the rejections of claims 12 and 13 under the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112 in the Advisory Action dated May 6, 2005.

The Advisory Action also indicated that amended claim 5 raised an issue under the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112. In response to the Advisory Action, Robert J. Ross, Ph.D, agent for Applicants, participated in a telephone interview with Examiner Helms.

Claims 1 and 5 were discussed in detail. The Examiner noted that claims 1 and 5, as amended, recited that the heavy and light chains of the libraries have at least one CDR loop, thus encompassing chains that have fewer than the three CDR loops needed for binding activity in an antibody. The Examiner suggested that the claim should be amended to explicitly recite that the heavy and light chains have three CDR loops, and that at least one of the CDR loops has the amino acid residue sequence of a mouse CDR loop and is flanked by unaltered human framework residues. The Examiner noted that there is ample support in the application for this amendment, since all examples included three CDR loops. Accordingly, claims 1 and 5 are amended as discussed above to over come this objection.

In addition, the Examiner noted that claim 5 was amended to recite "humanized mouse" libraries in place of the original "human" libraries. The Examiner indicated that this raised an issue of broadened claim scope. During the telephone interview, the Examiner agreed that the "human" libraries in the original claims were not purely human, since each chain in the library includes at least one mouse CDR loop sequence. Accordingly, the terms "human library" and "humanized mouse library" are essentially equivalent in the context of the present application, particularly in view of the fact that the claim is directed to the production of a "humanized mouse monoclonal antibody heavy and light chain pair." In the interest of facilitating early issuance of the present application, claim 5 is amended to recite "human" in place of "humanized mouse" in steps (a) and (c) and to delete the first and second references to "humanized mouse" from step (d). It is to be understood that the

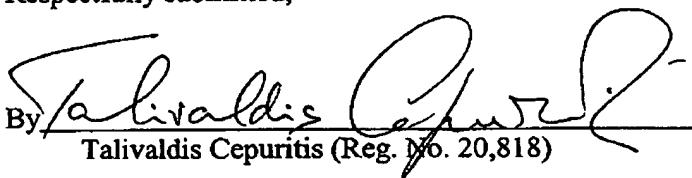
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"human" heavy and light chains of the libraries are not purely human, since they include at least one mouse CDR loop sequence.

Applicants believe that the present amendments and remarks overcome all rejections of the present claims. Applicants deem the application to be in form for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of finality, withdrawal of all rejections, and allowance of claims 1-15 are respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

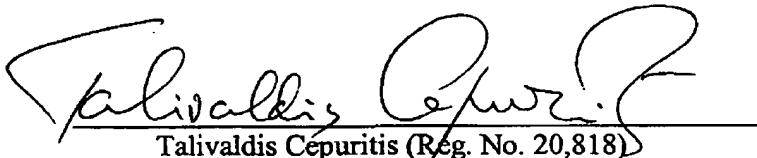
Dated: 19 May 2005

By 
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this SUPPLEMENTARY AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE and the accompanying PETITION are being transmitted by facsimile transmission to Fax No. 703-872-9306 on 19 May, 2005.


Talivaldis Cepuritis (Reg. No. 20,818)